

# COUNTY OF HYDE

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CMC, NCCCC

Commissioners

30 Oyster Creek Road

PO Box 188

SWAN QUARTER, NORTH CAROLINA 27885

252-926-4400

252-926-3701 Fax

Lois Stotesberry,

Clerk to the Board of



## HURRICANE MATTHEW ADVISORY #7

October 8, 2016 @ 12 p.m.

### **NCDOT Ferry Division Suspends Ocracoke-Hatteras Route, Peak Conditions Expected Overnight**

Due to the approach of Hurricane Matthew, the N.C. Department of Transportation's Ferry Division suspended operations on the Hatteras Inlet route after the 8 a.m. departure from Ocracoke to Hatteras. The County of Hyde and the North Carolina Department of Transportation will work together to expeditiously restore services and visitor access to Ocracoke Island as the conditions permit.

The threat of dangerous and life threatening conditions have increased with the recent track updates and we urge continued caution across our County. As of 11:00 a.m. this morning (National Hurricane Center Advisory #42), Matthew is a minimal Category One (1) hurricane with 75 mph maximum sustained winds and the storm is moving to the northeast at 12 mph. The current forecast track brings Matthew approximately 80 miles south of Ocracoke as a strong tropical storm and the most likely impacts for Eastern NC will be:

- Eight (8) to fifteen (15) inches of rainfall with locally higher amounts possible.
- Dangerous flood levels from flash flooding and storm surge combined.
- Significant inundation of water that could result in three (3) feet or more across low lying roadways, homes, and other buildings.
- Areas accessible by low lying roads being cut off.
- Higher winds that have resulted in the issuance of Tropical Storm Warnings for Eastern North Carolina.
- An increased potential for downed trees and numerous power outages.

We are hopeful the most significant impacts are not realized in Eastern NC, however we need to be vigilant and prepared. It is still within the margin of error for the storm to pass closer to the coast which would increase the impacts across coastal areas and inland. Closely monitor the forecast for Matthew and be alert to additional forecast track changes that could increase the dangerous impacts felt across the County. Be prepared to take action to protect yourself and your property if needed.

Please be advised, flood waters may contain sewage and other harmful contaminants. Keep children and pets out of flood waters.

Given the forecast and timing of peak conditions, Hyde County public safety services may be suspended later tonight as sustained winds reach 45-50 mph. Therefore, citizens need to be prepared for service delays or denials of service.

Please maintain awareness and monitor for further updates from Hyde County Public Information. If you would like further information regarding conditions in Hyde County or need to report damages, please call 252-926-4365.

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Teresa Adams  
Public Information Officer  
(252)542-0842  
tadams@hydecountync.gov

